



Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense: Legislative Affairs

Legislative Update

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR HOMELAND DEFENSE

DOD SUPPORT FOR HURRICANE KATRINA RELIEF: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2005, AS OF 0600**

Command and Control

- U.S. Northern Command Commander is Admiral Keating in Colorado Springs, Colorado.
- Joint Task Force Katrina Commander is Lieutenant General Honore at Camp Shelby, Mississippi.
- Joint Task Force Louisiana National Guard Commander is Major General Landreneau, New Orleans, Louisiana.
- Joint Task Force Mississippi National Guard Commander is Major General Cross at Keesler AFB, Mississippi.

Operational Highlights

- 70,616 Active Duty and National Guard personnel are on the ground or aboard ships supporting relief operations.
 - 19,793 Active Duty.
 - 46,186 National Guard. (+ 4,637 outside the response area).
- 20 US Navy ships are in the area.
- Total aviation support includes Active Duty and National Guard aircraft:
 - 346 (-) helicopters (166 Active Duty and 180 National Guard).
 - 68 (-) airplanes (35 Active Duty and 33 National Guard).
- DoD has provided extensive search and rescue, evacuation, and medical support:
 - 4,637 active sorties flown – 496 in the past 24- hours.
 - 8,697 National Guard sorties flown – 309 in the past 24 hours.
 - Approximately 80,000 people evacuated.
 - Approximately 15,000 people rescued.
 - 7,500 patients evacuated by ground and an additional 2,607 evacuated by air.
 - 5,707 patients treated.
- Total DoD medical personnel in the area is 2,037 (1072 Active and 965 National Guard).
- Deputy Secretary of Defense approved Federal funding for use of National Guard in Title 32 status to support relief operations – status is retroactive to August 29.
- Projected flow of personnel for the next 24 to 48 hours: 3,140 Active Duty and 1154 National Guard.
- Joint Task Force Katrina (West) aboard the USS IWO JIMA.
- JTF Katrina (Forward) continues to improve JTF communications and computer networks and complete establishment of backup systems.



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- Lieutenant General Honore directed that no Federal military service member will perform or assist with any type of forced evacuation.
- The USNS COMFORT is positioned 142 miles southeast of New Orleans awaiting US Northern Command decision on final port.
- 82nd Airborne Division, 1st Cavalry Division, I and II Marine Expeditionary Force conducting humanitarian assistance, search and rescue, evacuation and security assessments.
 - Developing boundaries and search grid systems in conjunction with JTF Katrina and FEMA to facilitate clearing designated areas.
 - Deliberate planning to execute the high risk waterborne search and recovery in flooded areas in coordination with FEMA and US Coast Guard.
 - Division soldiers will not recover remains; will only mark and record locations for mortuary teams.
- 54th Quartermaster Corps, Fort Lee, Virginia, is standing-by at Fort Benning prepared to assist FEMA with mortuary affairs if required.
- Six installations are providing support as transportation staging areas for ice, water, medical supplies.
- 1,507 beds are available in field hospitals: New Orleans International Airport (25 beds), USS BATAAN (360 beds), USS IWO JIMA (360 beds), USS Tortuga (308 beds), 14th Combat Support Hospital (204 beds) and the USNS COMFORT (250 beds).
- 21 million Meals Ready to Eat have been ordered by FEMA – 15.7 million have been delivered.
 - As a result of more organizations providing meals and movement of people to temporary shelters, FEMA placed the delivery of 2.5 million meals on-hold as current inventory is sufficient.
- Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas is the central collection point for supplies donated by foreign countries - 100 nations and 11 international organizations have offered assistance.



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Useful Links

Defense Department Special Briefing on Pentagon's Hurricane Katrina Relief Efforts 9/7/05

<http://www.dod.mil/transcripts/2005/tr20050907-3864.html>

DoD News about Hurricane Katrina 9/9/05

<http://www.dod.mil/home/features/2005/katrina/news/>